HOSPITALS' GRAND OPERA WEEK

In aid of

The Ulster Hospital for Children and Women	The Mater Infirmorum Hospital

The Young Philanthropists

present

THE DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY

in

LA TRAVIATA
Guiseppi Verdi

FAUST
Charles Gounod

IL TROVATORE
Guiseppi Verdi

RIGOLETTO
Guiseppi Verdi

with

GWEN CATLEY VICTORIA SLADEN
RUTH PACKER PATRICIA BLACK
FULL ORCHESTRA & CHORUS OF THE DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY

JAMES JOHNSTON IVAN DIXON
FRANK SALE RODERICK JONES
VERE LAURIE JOHN LYNSKEY
DERMOT BROWNER

CONDUCTORS: COMDT. J. M. DOYLE, Mus.Bac., ARTHUR HAMMOND

ORCHESTRA LEADER: TERRY O'CONNOR

Souvenir Programme

ROYAL HIPPODROME, BELFAST **16th—21st SEPTEMBER, 1946**

PRINTED BY G. McGOURAN, BANK STREET, BELFAST

LA TRAVIATA

THE Young Philanthropists welcome the DUBLIN GRAND OPERA SOCIETY to our City.

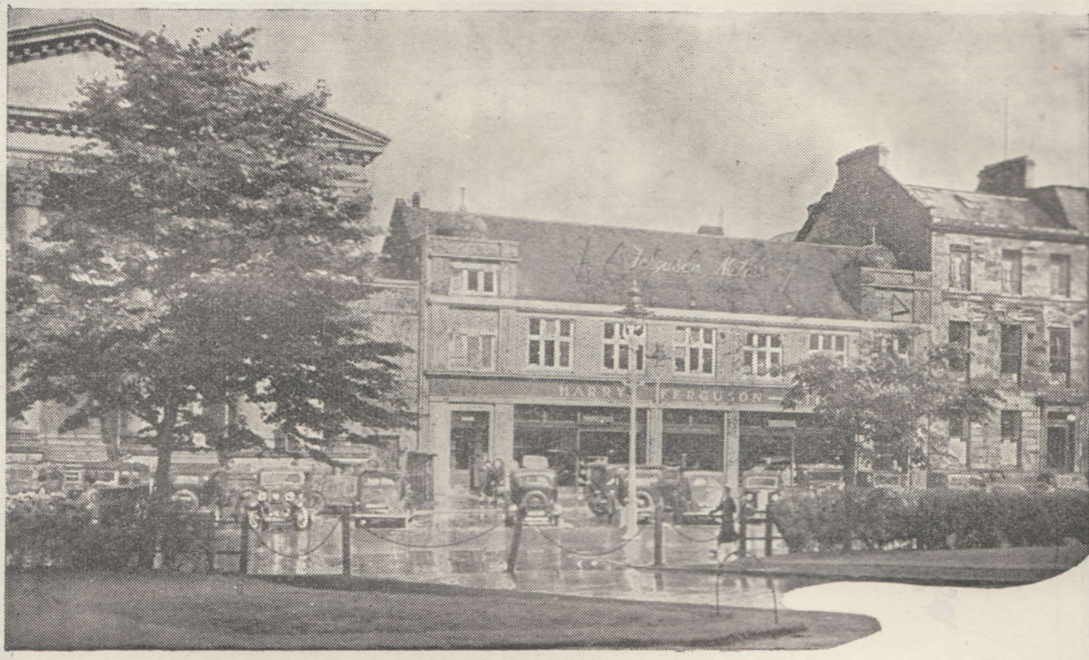
We consider it a great privilege to sponsor this short season of Grand Opera by a Society whose reputation stands on a high pinnacle throughout the land.

We acknowledge our indebtedness to the CHAIRMAN (Comdt. W. O'Kelly) and the COMMITTEE of the Dublin Grand Opera Society for their ready response to our invitation, and the whole-hearted manner in which they have arranged for their talented company to provide such worthy presentations of world-renowned operas.

We welcome our distinguished Guest Artistes, and feel justified in specially mentioning our own JAMES JOHNSTON. It was with feelings of great pride that we learned of his success with Sadlers Wells Opera Company, and are particularly pleased that his visit here this week should be with the Society in which he made his Grand Opera Debut.

We take this opportunity of thanking that Great Personality of the Irish Theatre—MR. G. L. BIRCH of the ROYAL HIPPODROME. His unfailing courtesy, helpful advice and encouragement has been of inestimable value to us in this great venture.

To our PATRONS—we say THANKS! You have made this Week a wonderful success by the support which you have given. We sincerely hope you have enjoyed the Performances, and know you join us in the happy thought that the ULSTER HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN and THE MATER INFIRMORUM HOSPITAL will benefit considerably.



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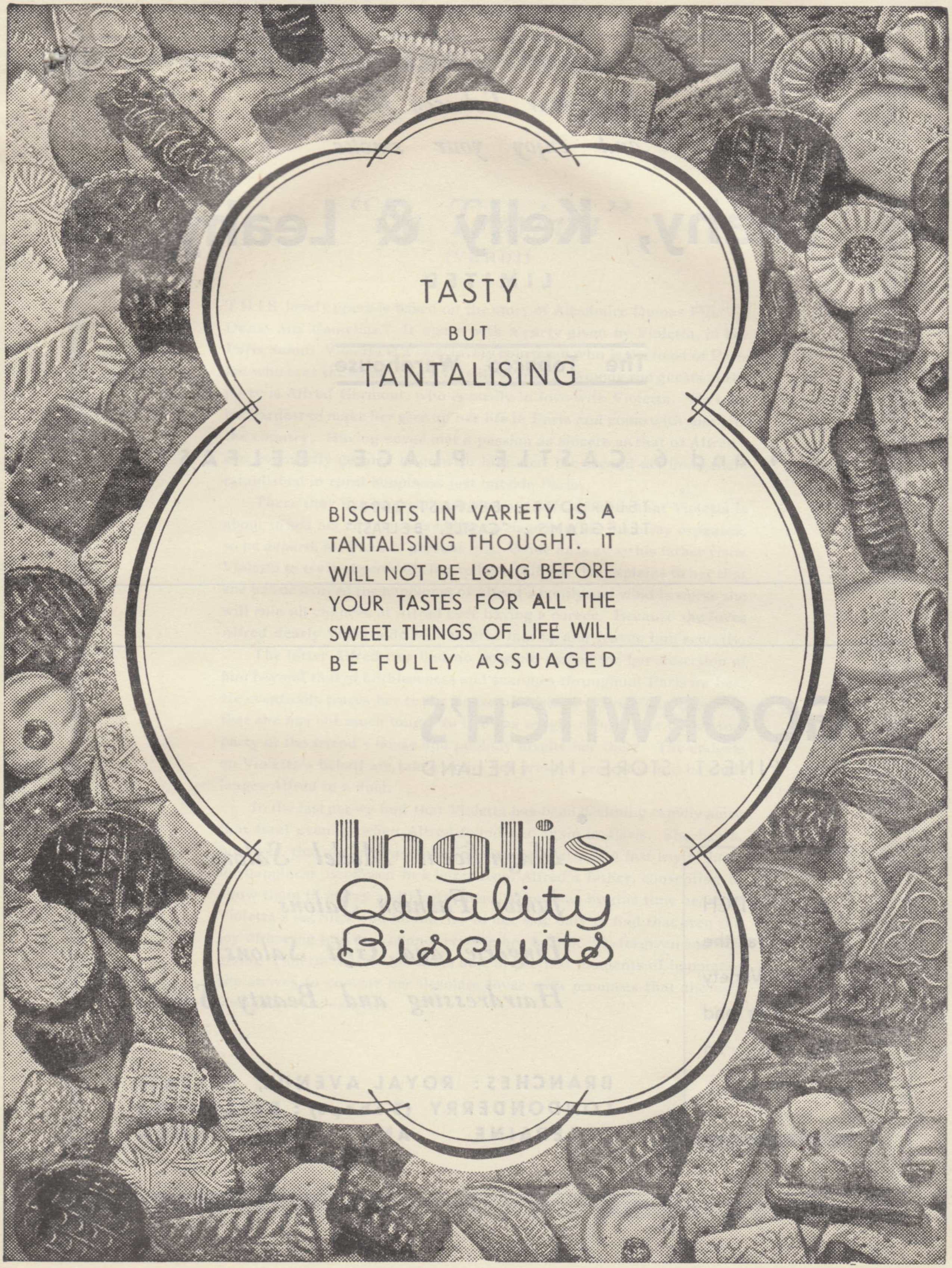
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"La Traviata"

(VERDI)

THIS lovely opera is based on the story of Alexandre Dumas Fils "La Dame Aux Camelias." It opens with a party given by Violetta, in her Paris Salon. Violetta is a very lovely courtesan who is the toast of Paris but who is at the same time a very ill woman. Among the guests at the party is Alfred Germont, who is madly in love with Violetta. He tries his hardest to make her give up her life in Paris and come with him into the country. Having never met a passion as sincere as that of Alfred's she eventually decides to go with him, and the second act finds them established in rural happiness just outside Paris.

There they live in great content until Alfred learns that Violetta is about to sell her city house and her carriage in order to defray expenses, so he departs for Paris to prevent this. While he is away his father visits Violetta to try and persuade her to leave Alfred. He explains to her that she has destroyed the happiness of Alfred's family and what is worse she will ruin all chances of Alfred ever having a career. Because she loves Alfred dearly Violetta decides to give him up and leaves him secretly.

The bitter Alfred can find no possible reason for her desertion of him beyond that of faithlessness and searches throughout Paris for her. He eventually traces her to the house of a friend where Violetta feeling that she has not much longer to live has sought refuge. He comes to a party at the friend's house and publicly insults her there. The cudgels on Violetta's behalf are taken up by her present protector and he challenges Alfred to a duel.

In the last act we find that Violetta has been declining rapidly since that fatal evening when Alfred found her again in Paris. She hears, however, that Alfred was victorious in the duel and a last ray of hope for happiness is offered in a letter from Alfred's father, consenting to allow them to marry and forgive her. Alfred has by this time heard of Violetta's sacrifice and he hurries to her side only to find that even the joy of having him back cannot restore her health. So forgiven and forgiving Violetta dies in his arms and in her last moments of happiness she strives to console her desolate lover with promises that she will always live in his heart.

Monday, 16th at 7.30 p.m. and Thursday, 19th September at 11.30 p.m.

LA TRAVIATA

(Guiseppe Verdi)

Dramatis Personæ

Alfred Germont .... IVAN DIXON
Georges Germont, *his father* .... JOHN LYNSKEY
Viscount de Letorieres .... THOMAS J. SYNNOTT
Baron Duphol .... P. J. TOBIN
Marquis D'Orbigny .... BRENDAN ROBERTS
Doctor Grenvil .... DERMOT BROWNER
Joseph, *Violetta's servant* .... R. J. CAREY
A Commissionaire .... H. BRITTAIN
Violetta Valery, *la Traviata* .... RUTH PACKER
Flora Bervoix, *her friend and confidante* .... M. BARRY
Annina, *Violetta's maid* .... KATHLEEN ADAMS

Friends of Violetta and Flora, Matadors,
Gypsies, Servants, Etc.

Conductor: ARTHUR HAMMOND
Opera Produced by SYDNEY RUSSELL

First produced Fenice Theatre, Venice, 6th March, 1853
Time: About 1800 Place: In and round Paris

LA TRAVIATA

Synopsis of Scenery

Act I.

Drawing room in Violetta's House at Paris

Act II.

Violetta's boudoir in a country house near Paris

Act III.

Flora Bervoix' Mansion

Act IV.

The bedroom in Violetta's House

Musical Director, Comdt. J. M. Doyle, Mus.B. *Leader of Orchestra*, Terry O'Connor
Stage Director, Mr. Sydney Russell *Chorus Mistress*, Miss Julia Gray
Stage Manager, Mr. T. Daly *Stage Electrician*, Mr. Chas. Morrison
Wardrobe, Dublin Grand Opera Society (*Executed by* Mrs. Caffrey)
Wigs by Madame Drago, St. Stephen's Green

President Dublin Grand Opera Society J. F. Larchet, Mus.D.
Hon. Secretary Mr. A. E. Timlin, 2 Hollybrook Park, Clontarf
Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. J. Carey, 18 Garville Avenue, Rathgar

Chairman Young Philanthropists Mr. E. Archer, 243 Springfield Road
Hon. Secretary Mr. J. Hughes, 54 Stranmillis Road
Hon. Treasurer, Mr. P. Agnew, Norfolk Drive, Belfast

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